Jan./Feb. 1991 $2.00

MONTANA OUTDOORS

Special Photo Issue

Front cover
Pronghorns: Rodney Schlecht

Inside front cover
Silhouetted hunters: Tom Warren

Back cover
Rosehips and ice crystals: Mark Lagerstrom

State of Montana
Stan Stephens/Governor

Fish and Game Commission
Errol Galt/Chairman
Greg Barkus/Vice Chairman
F.W. Howell
Bob Jensen
William Stratton

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
K.L. Cool/Director
Patrick Graham/Deputy Director for Staff Operations
Al Elser/Deputy Director for Field Operations

Conservation Education Division
Ron Aasheim/Administrator
Vince Yannone/Assistant Administrator

Montana Outdoors Staff
Dave Books/Editor
Kay Morton Ellerhoff/Associate Editor
Marita Martiniak/Art Director

MONTANA OUTDOORS

January/February 1991
Volume 22, Number 1

"I'm glad I lived when I did—not twenty years later. I saw things when they were new."

C.M.R.—Charles M. Russell Cowboy Artist
by Austin Russell

*Montana's Cowboy Artist. **THE** Cowboy Artist. Kid Russell. That Ornery Kid Russell. Cholly. Cholly, My Friend. Ah-Wah-Cous. Mister Montana.*

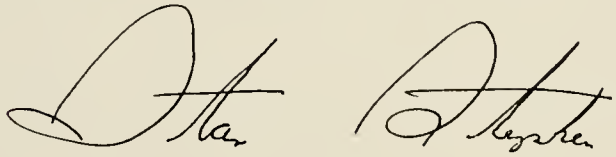
Charles M. Russell had about as many appellations as he did talents. He sketched with pen and ink. He painted with watercolor and oil. He wrote letters, sometimes lavishly illustrated. He wrote books. He was a friend for all seasons, to white man and Indian alike. He was a muralist, sculptor, philosopher, storyteller, and humorist. He was a rider of horses who mourned the passing of the West. As Louis Chapin characterized him in the introduction to "50 Russell Paintings of the Old American West," "He was an unregenerate cowboy with an incredible grasp of his visual language. He staged complete dramas with scene, plot, actors—he also rejoiced in humanity."

"Kid Russell" came to the Montana Territory when he was 16, under his parents' assumption that the deprivations of life out West would return him quickly to St. Louis, ready to take over the family business. But the Kid seemed to belong. He stayed.

We think the quotes used to accompany this Tenth Annual Special Photo Issue will bring you closer to the words of "Mister Montana." And the pictures prove that Montana still has the power to inspire the artist in all of us.

It's impossible to summarize Charlie Russell and his imprint on Montana in a few brief paragraphs. His friend, Will Rogers, came close in a memorial tribute: "He wasn't just 'Another Artist.' He wasn't 'just another' anything...."

His adopted state—Montana—isn't just another state.



Stan Stephens
Governor

Montana Outdoors (USPS 360-280), the official publication of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, is published bimonthly (January, March, May, July, September, and November). Contributions (manuscripts or illustrations) are welcome with the understanding that the department or the editor cannot be responsible for loss or damage. All contributions will be published at the discretion of the editor. For subscription information, phone 800/678-6668 (toll-free). Subscription rates are $7 for one year, $12.50 for two years, and $17 for three years. (Please add $3 per year for Canadian subscriptions. All other foreign subscriptions, air mail only, are $22 for one year.) Individual copies and back issues cost $2 each. Although ***Montana Outdoors*** is copyrighted, permission to reprint articles is available by writing our office or phoning us at 406/444-2474. All correspondence should be addressed ***Montana Outdoors***, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 East Sixth; Helena, MT 59601. ©Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1991. All rights reserved. Indexed by States' Periodical Index, 1660 Smithville Road, Havre, MT 59501.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: ***Montana Outdoors***, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 East Sixth, Helena, MT 59601. Second-class postage paid at Helena, MT 59601, and additional mailing offices.

McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park: Diane Ensign

"In October I went hunting with a party of seven on the head of the south fork of the flat head....we shure got in a wild country and we had all the meat we wanted....I dident kill aney thing but I had a good time."

letter to Con Price
Good Medicine

Autumn monarch: Conrad Rowe

Grizzly with cubs: Jim Mepham

"It is a great country wild and makes good picture stuff...."

letter to Joe Scheurle
Good Medicine

Huckleberries: Stephen H. Ellis

Young badgers: Dan & Cindy Hartman

Yellow warbler family: Michael & Patsy Fribley

White-tailed deer: Chris DeWan

Snowshoe hare: Mark Lagerstrom

"In spite of gasoline the bigest part of the Rocky Mountains belongs to God...."

letter to Mike Shannon
Good Medicine

Bison: Conrad Rowe

Ospreys: Jim Mepham

"'Buffalo?' says old Dad Lane. 'I was here when they're thick as hair on a dog, but it's surprisin' how quick one of these big herds could quit a country. You'd travel for days in sight of 'em, an' wake up some mornin' an' it'd look like they'd disappeared from the face of the earth; you'd ride for ten days without seein' hide or hair of 'em. Whether they walked or run I never knowed, but from looks you'd swear they'd flew.'"

"Dad Lane's Buffalo Yarn"
Trails Plowed Under

Bighorn ram: Dan & Cindy Hartman

"An' when I got back to Billings an' got out on the platform an' breathed in all the Montana ozone my lungs would hold, an' saw ever'where about me the towerin' peaks that have been a part of my life for so many years, I felt a sort of pity for people back East who have to content themselves with potato hills masqueradin' under the name of mountains."

"The Big Camp"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Mountain goats: Nelson Kenter

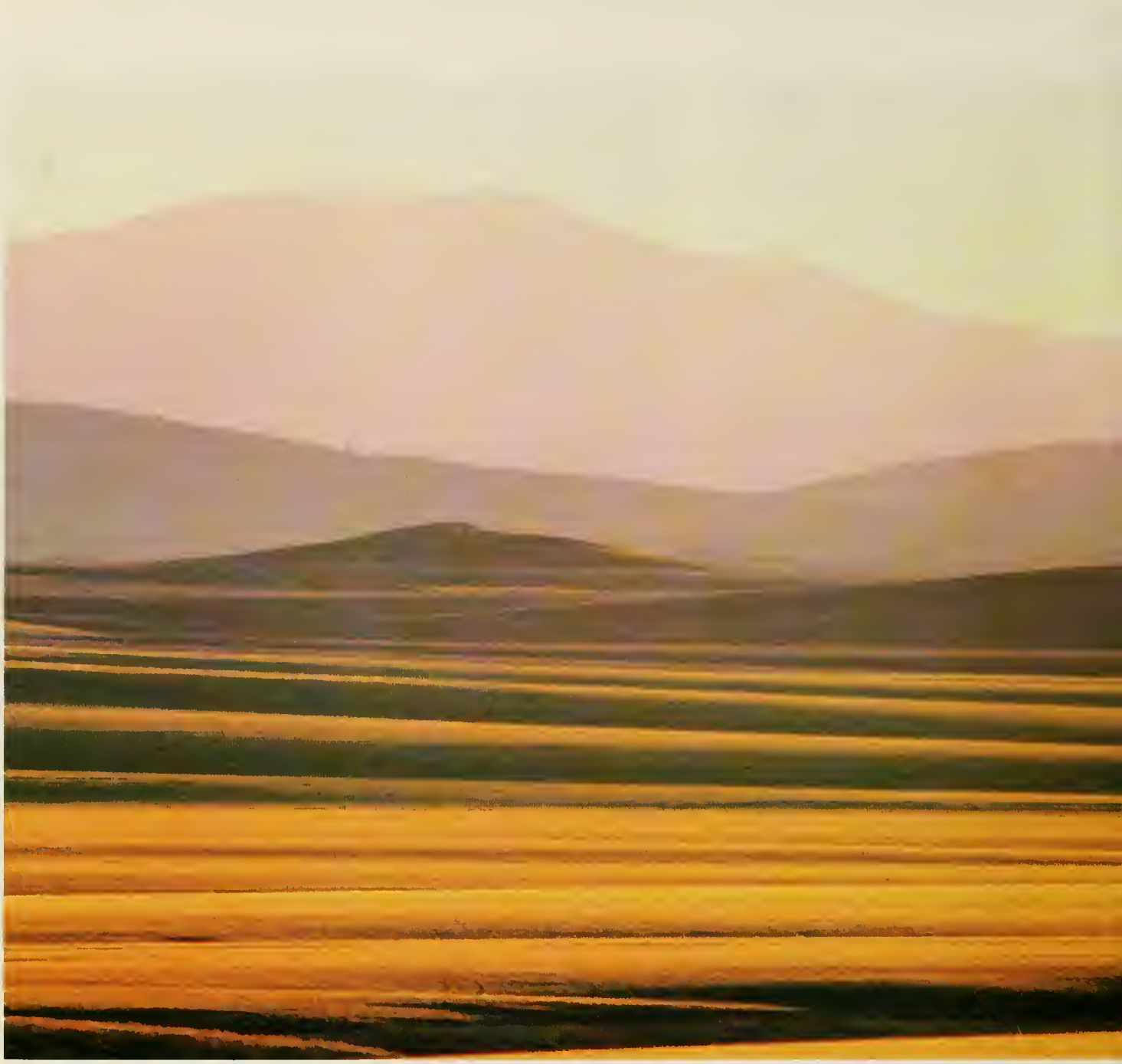
Bull moose: Mike Logan

"Don't look too long at the shadow, but cast your eyes in places where the sun still shines."

"Charlie Russell, Philosopher"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Indian paintbrush: Jim Mepham

Rufous hummingbird and bee: Alan G. Nelson



Autumn striations: Richard Mousel

"No man ever lived long enough to paint all the pictures I've got in mind...."

"Pay Dirt"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Trumpeter swans: Pete & Alice Bengeyfield

(following page) Bitterroot Mountains: Mark Lagerstrom

"These tall buildings which have gone up since my boyhood days don't appeal to me at all. Somehow I like the needle pines of the Montana mountains best—there is more of Mother Nature in them."

"Charlie Russell, the Man"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Bull elk: Tim Egan

Beartooth Mountains: Carl Francis

Canada goose family: Conrad Rowe

"To me the roar of a mountian stream mingled with the bells of a pack trane is grander musick than all the string or brass bands in the world."

letter to Mike Shannon
Good Medicine

Grizzly bear: Dave McGee

Crab spider on *Angelica*: Kristi DuBois

Sparring marmots: Jim Mepham

"In your youth you loved wild things. Time has taken them and given you much you don't want. Your body is here in a highley civilized land but your heart lives on the back trails...."

letter to Charles F. Lummis
Good Medicine

Pronghorn montage: John Christiansen

American avocets: Kristi DuBois

"The only book he's got is these old prairies, but it's open to him an' he knows every leaf in her; I tell you fellers, she sure holds good yarns for them that can read her."

"Finger-That-Kills Wins His Squaw"
Trails Plowed Under

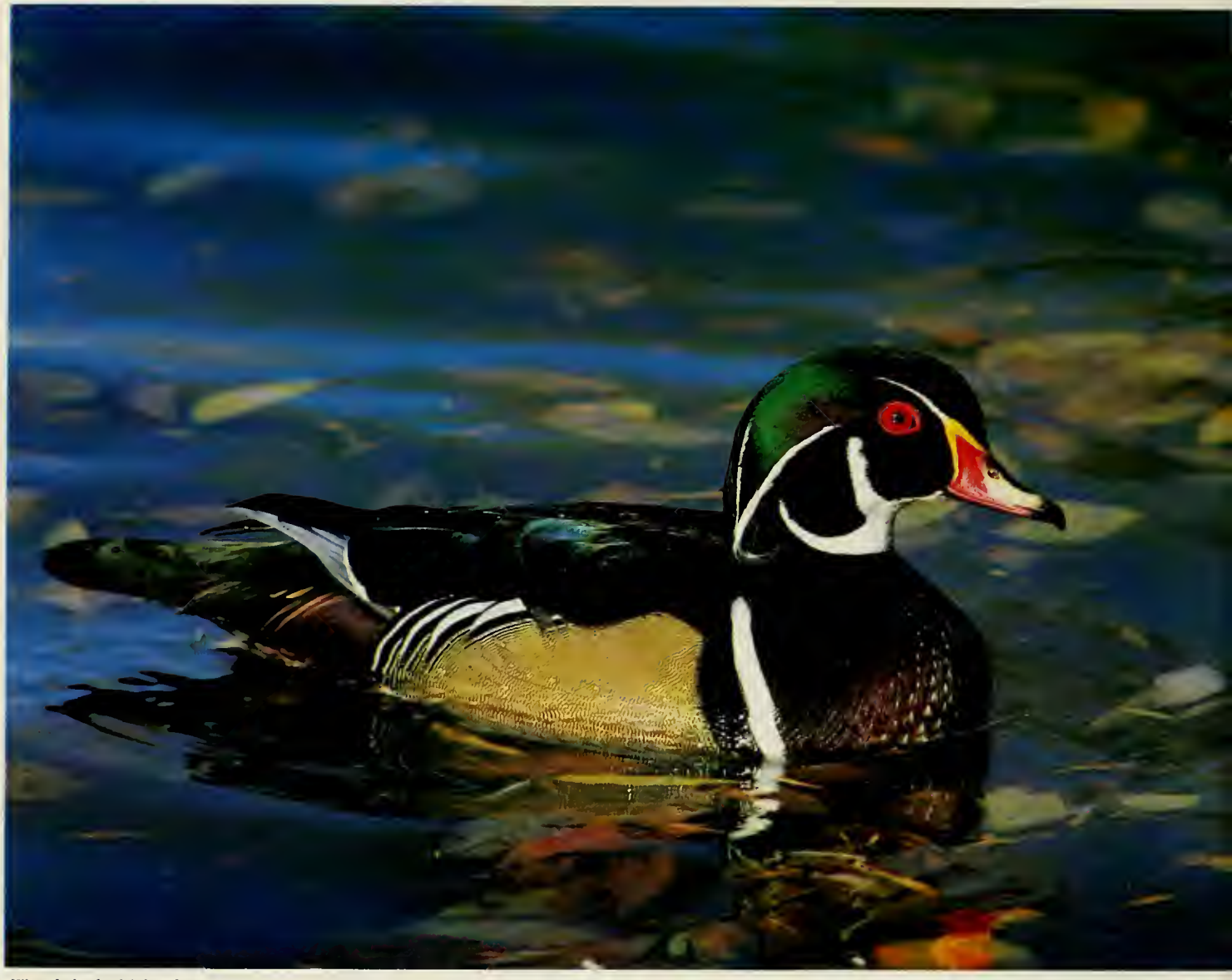
Fox squirrel: Bill Swanson

Cow elk and calf: Pete & Alice Bengeyfield

Red fox: Richard Mousel

"But for me, I want room, I want breathin' space, I want land enough to turn 'round on without joslin' anybody, an' I've come back to Montana to get it."

"The Big Camp"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman



Wood duck: Richard Mousel

Foothills sunset: Craig Jourdonnais

"I try to paint like it looks to me."

"Charlie at Work"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Bighorn sheep: Tom Warren

Mule deer: Rodney Schlecht

"Time only changes the outside of things. It scars the rocks and snarls the trees, but the heart inside is the same."

"Charlie Russell, Philosopher"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Coyote: Conrad Rowe

"The winter's been pretty open till then, but the day we start there's a storm breaks loose that skins everything I ever seed. It looks like the snow-maker's been holdin' back, an' turned the whole winter supply loose at once. Cold? Well, it would make a polar bear hunt cover."

"A Savage Santa Claus"
Trails Plowed Under

Snowstorm mulev: Conrad Rowe

Mountain bluebird: Ed Tyanich

"I don't like to write but I prefer it to sending flowers."

"Charlie Russell, Philosopher"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Pasqueflowers: Karen Knie-Thompson

Mountain goat kid: Scott Wm. Hanrahan

Stuart Peak, Rattlesnake Wilderness Area: Mike Kellogg

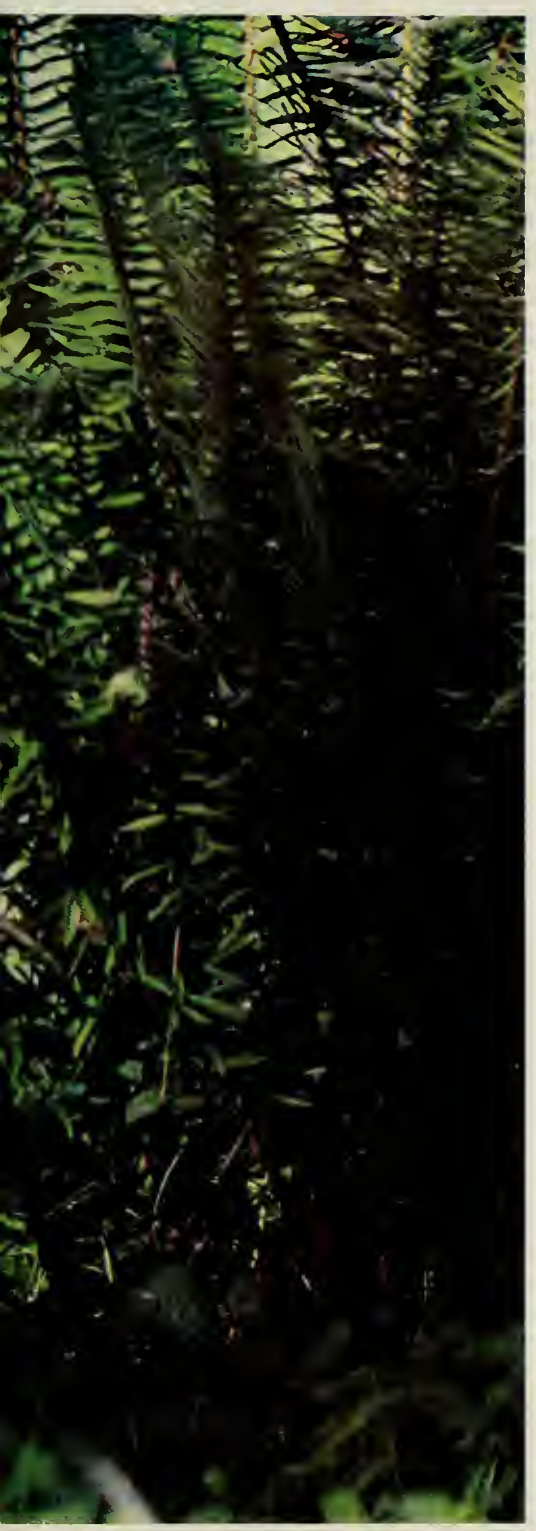
"When I back track memory's trail, it seems all the best camps are behind."

"Charlie Russell, Philosopher"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman

Bobcat: Mike Logan

"Nature has been my teacher; I'll leave it to you whether she has been a good one or not."

"Charlie Russell, Philosopher"
Charles M. Russell The Cowboy Artist, A Biography
by Ramon F. Adams and Homer E. Britzman



Great blue heron: Conrad Rowe

River otter: Mark Lagerstrom